asked to take action against its officers for the lapse/dereliction of duty pointed out by the Commission.

Thefts in Trains

*228. SHRI V GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many complaints did Railway Protection Force receive regarding thefts of goods and valuables on Tamil Nadu, Grand Trunk and Kerala Express during the last three years, year-wise and trainwise;

(b) how many of them have since been successfully solved by Railway Protection Force so for;

(c) how many complaints are still pending with Railway Protection Force for recovery of goods and disposal;

(d) whether it is a fact that the passengers who are/were victims of thefts of goods and valuables are harrassed by Railway Protection Force when they approach the concerned authorities to register the FIR; and

(e) whether any such case or complaint in this regard has been received in the past by concerned authority; if so, what action has been taken against these who were found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) to (e) Statistical figures of such complaints are maintained by the Government Railway Police, which functions under the control of the State Governments concerned.

RPF is not legally authorised to register and investigate such complaints. Therefore, there is no question of Railway Protection Force harrassing the victims of thefts of goods.

Physio Occupational Therapist service

*229. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Physio Occupational Tharapist Service started in Central Institute of Orthopaedics, Safdarjung Hospital;

(b) what is the existing strength as against the sanctioned/required strength of the Department;

(c) what are the reasons for not filling up the requisite strength of the department; and

(d) what steps have been taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The service was started in January, 1991.

(b) to (d) Against a sanctioned strength of 7 Physio/Occupational Therapists in the Central Institute of Orthopaedics, 4 posts are filled. Selection has already been made in respect of 3 vacant posts and the offer of appointment has been issued in 2 cases.

Oil Fields in Assam

230. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the oil fields in Assam have failed to attract any bidders;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the response for other oil fields in the country apart from Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH